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10/584,414	02/02/2007	Akio Funae	0757-0316PUS1	9411

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EXAMINER

SAFAIPOUR, BOBBAK

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2618

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With respect to the 35 USC 112, first paragraph rejection, Applicant's arguments are persuasive. As a result, the previous 35 USC 112, first paragraph rejection is withdrawn.

With respect to independent claim 5, Applicant argues that the last limitation, which states "wherein both the amplification and attenuation aspects of the amplifier gain are directly controlled by the gain control voltage" was not addressed.

The Examiner respectfully disagrees. As shown in the previous limitations of claim 5, Igarashi discloses that the "control switching unit sets a first operation state in which the *RF amplifier is placed in an automatic amplified state*" (read as amplification aspect) (abstract). Furthermore, Igarashi discloses that "in the reception circuit unit, the *reception signal is attenuated to a predetermined level by the attenuator 31* (read as attenuation aspect) and amplified by the automatic high-frequency amplifier 32". (col. 3, lines 20-25)

Furthermore, as discussed in the previous Final Action, the control voltage generating unit 40 of Igarashi has an output terminal connected to a control terminal of the automatic gain high frequency amplifier 32. The attenuator 31 has an output terminal connected to an input terminal of the automatic gain high-frequency amplifier 32. (figure 4; col. 2, lines 5-10 and 25-28). Furthermore, Igarashi discloses that the control voltage generating unit 40 generates and supplies a gain control voltage corresponding to the supplied intensity data to the automatic gain high-frequency amplifier 32, and changes the gain of the automatic gain high frequency amplifier 32 in response to the gain control voltage. (col. 3, lines 39-44)

Additionally, the Applicant's argue that Igarashi's amplifier performs signal amplification only, and only on signals detected or generated by the device itself and that there is

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no teaching or suggestion in Igarashi that any of the amplifiers discloses therein may be adjusted to have a gain associated with an attenuated state.

The Examiner respectfully disagrees. As discussed above, Igarashi discloses that the “control switching unit sets a first operation state in which the *RF amplifier is place in an automatic amplified state*” (read as amplification aspect). (abstract) Furthermore, Igarashi discloses that “in the reception circuit unit, the *reception signal is attenuated to a predetermined level by the attenuator 31* (read as attenuation aspect) and amplified by the automatic high-frequency amplifier 32”. (col. 3, lines 20-25)

It has been shown that Igarashi teaches an amplifier whose gain is adjustable from an amplified state to an attenuate state. If the Applicant intends to differentiate between Igarashi and the present application, then such differences should be made explicit in the claims. As a result, the argued features are written such that they read upon the cited references; therefore, the previous rejection still applies.

/Bobbak Safaipoor/

Examiner, Art Unit 2618

/Matthew D. Anderson/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2618